

**EAST PROVIDENCE SCHOOL DEPARTMENT**

**East Providence School Committee**

**East Providence City Hall Council Chamber**

**145 Taunton Avenue**

**East Providence, Rhode Island 02914**

**May 14, 2013**

**Open Session**

**Mr. Joel Monteiro, Chairman, called the meeting to order at 6:15 PM. School Committee Members Present: Elizabeth Clupny, Timothy J. Conley, Anthony Ferreira, Richard Pimentel, Joel Monteiro. Also Present: Kim Mercer, Superintendent of Schools, Andrew Thomas, Robert Silva, Esq.**

**Motion by Mr. Pimentel that the Committee convene in Executive Session for purposes of discussing:**

**Personnel - R.I. Gen. Laws §42-46-5(a) (1); Collective Bargaining R.I. Gen. Laws §42-46-5(a) (2);**

**Litigation/Pending Litigation -R.I. Gen. Laws §42-46-5(a) (2), seconded by Mr. Ferreira. Vote 5-0.**

**Return to Public Session – Motion by Ms. Clupny to return to public session and to seal the minutes of the executive session, seconded by Mr. Pimentel. Vote 5-0.**

## **Report Executive Session Votes - None**

**Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag & Moment of Silence for Estelle Machon, retired secretary, who passed away recently.**

### **Student/Staff Recognition**

**M.J. Francis School Student – Supt. Mercer invited Lloydanne Leddy, Principal of Francis School to speak/recognize a student, Cormac Crump, for being published in Prov. Journal by reinstating Kids Comic. Coach Rob Traverse – Girls' Softball Field –delayed to June meeting.**

**Student Liaison Report – Joshua Concepcion presented a report on high school events and activities.**

**School Committee agreed to move up Old Business Item – High School Gym Project – Shane Messier spoke regarding the Townie Project initiated by a former student, John Carnevale. The Project will be funded by donations and grants and the center of the project is the renovation of the high school gymnasium which has been started already. Fundraising events will include: Pasta Dinner May 24th, 5K on Saturday, May 25th with activities all afternoon; a Bowl-a-Thon on June 2nd at the Bowling Academy and an event on June 22 at Whiskey Republic. Volunteers have started with cleaning and painting and helped to remove bleachers from the gym. Additional**

**work will be ongoing and volunteers are still needed. All are asked to participate in these events. Website is: [www.damoursstep.org](http://www.damoursstep.org).**

**Report on City of East Providence Budget Commission –Personnel Activity Report - Kim Mercer, Superintendent of Schools, reported that a meeting was held on May 2nd at which time, the request to post the position of Pupil Personnel Director was tabled until the next meeting.**

**Public Comment I - None**

### **Superintendent's Report**

**Johnson Controls Management Presentation - Jim Cotton, General Manager and Andrew McIsaac attended and presented a PowerPoint providing status information on the Energy Management Performance Contract managed by Johnson Controls for the school district. The report included the background and status of the project, explanation of the concept of performance contracting, a list of improvements at the school facilities and explanation of the measurement and verification phase of the project. The East Providence Public Works Department recommended that an independent energy consultant be retained by the School District to review and verify the measurement and verification phase. Discussion took place and questions were posed by the School Committee.**

**Facilities Update – Mr. Ed Catelli advised that bids for Phase 3 of the \$15 Million bond for life safety improvements will be opened on June 3, 2013. Approximately \$7.8 Million is remaining from the original bond amount.**

**Lights on in School Buildings - Mr. Ferreira requested information; discussion took place regarding turning off lights at school buildings to save energy and money.**

**Personnel Report on Resignations/Leaves of Absence – Kathleen Waterbury, Human Resources Director presented the following personnel items:**

#### **RESIGNATION**

**Richard Silva Student Council – EPHS-End of 2012-2013 School Year**

**Ellen Will Science Department Head –EPHS-End of 2012-2013 School Year**

**Tracey Raposo ELL Teacher-Whiteknact Elementary-End of 2012-2013 School Year**

#### **LEAVE OF ABSENCE**

**Ellen Reinhardt Psychologist – District-Effective 2013-2014 School Year**

#### **LEAVE OF ABSENCE RESCINDED**

**Tracey Raposo- ELL Teacher - Whiteknact**

**Middle School Sports Transportation – Kim Mercer reported that a legal opinion had been obtained on the issue of transporting students (busing) to Middle School sporting events.**

**Jessica Beauchaine, President of Project 106, stated that parents take their kids and other students home; would like as H/S sports as well; spending \$12,656 from Project 106 and Boosters solely; have the money and intend to cover fall, but would like to look into this more for a better way than busing at \$77/per hour. Because of the sports, Principals advise that students' grades are up, bullying down; take that into consideration of the time and effort; reducing costs would be huge savings and she would like the School Committee to continue to look into this. After discussion, Mr. Monteiro stated that a decision needs to be made, but we have to cover all the bases before making a decision and do the due diligence on it.**

### **Consent Agenda**

**Approval of Minutes –Motion by Mr. Pimentel to table the minutes of the January 23, 2013 meeting, seconded by Mr. Ferreira. Vote 5-0.**  
**Motion by Ms.Clupny to approve the minutes of the meetings held on January 29th, February 26th and February 27, 2013, seconded by Mr. Pimentel. Vote 5-0.**

**Finance Report – Superintendent Kim Mercer reported that revenues are at \$39,771,208 (55.97%) and expenditures at \$35,574,354 (50.06%).**

## **Action Items**

### **Personnel Appointments**

**Richard Silva National Honor Society – EPHS-Effective 2013-2014 School Year**

**Darlene Hall Summer Math Camp Program-Administrator – EPHS**

**Jonathan Chapman Summer Math Teacher – EPHS**

**Leslie Eastwood Summer Math Teacher – EPHS**

**Katie Kenahan Summer Math Teacher – EPHS**

**Elizabeth Pacheco Summer Math Teacher – EPHS**

**Joel Swan Science Department Head – EPHS**

**Marianne Scorpio School Psychologist – High School, Effective 4/22/13**

**Motion to approve by Mr. Ferreira, seconded by Mr. Pimentel. Vote 5-0**

**Mr. Ferreira requested that a policy be established for rules on absence and tardiness for students attending the summer math program.**

**Bradley Contract – Superintendent Mercer requested approval to send a letter to Mr. Dan Wall of Bradley Hospital requesting a meeting to discuss reimbursement for the upcoming school year, which is required. Mr. Monteiro advised that the contract is expiring at the end**

of May and if no action is taken, it automatically renews for five years; he requested that we move forward with Bradley to establish an agreement amenable to both parties. Attorney Andrew Thomas advised that there are two trigger points, in the contract; one is to notify Bradley by June 1st that the contract is not being renewed and in the fourth year of the contract, we must notify them by June 1st to not allow the contract to renew. The Superintendent will send a letter regarding reimbursement for the coming school year; if we do not agree on reimbursement rates either party can notify the other by May 31st. Motion by Ms. Clupny to approve sending a letter to Bradley, seconded by Mr. Pimentel. Vote 5-0

Healthcare Renewal (Trust) – Finance Director, Malcolm Moore, requested to renew the contract for the administration of the health care program with our existing administrator, The RI Interlocal Management Trust. Mr. Moore recommended renewal and the schools should approve the receipt of a refund of its capital contributions and an equity distribution in the amount of \$279,120 from the Trust; Mr. Moore recommended that the School Committee approve taking the funds as a one- time payment. After discussion, a motion was made by Ms. Clupny to accept the recommendation, seconded by Mr. Conley. Vote 5-0.

## **Requisitions- Bill Lists**

### **Warrant #**

<b>1308 4/11/13 \$</b>	<b>375.00</b>
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**1309 5/6/13 \$ 470,201.76**

**1310 5/7/13 \$ 2,412,850.74**

**Motion to approve by Ms. Clupny, seconded by Mr. Ferreira. Vote 5-0.**

**Approval of Payroll Calendar 2013-14 – Motion by Ms. Clupny, seconded by Mr. Pimentel. Vote 5-0.**

**Field Trip Requests from the Career and Technical Center (June 9-12th and June 23-28th) were approved. Motion by Ms. Clupny, seconded by Mr. Pimentel. Vote 5-0.**

**Home School Requests – Motion by Ms. Clupny to approve a request, seconded by Mr. Ferreira.  
Vote 5-0.**

**School Committee Policy Sub-Committee to assist with the revision of the Policy Manual - Members are: Kim Mercer, Joel Monteiro, Janet Sheehan, Frank DeVall, Fatima Avila, Patricia Iannelli. Ad Hoc members: Kathleen Carrigan, Malcolm Moore, Kathleen Waterbury, Elmer Pina, Pupil Personnel Director and consultation with other personnel as needed. Motion to approve by Ms. Clupny, seconded by Mr. Pimentel. Vote 5-0.**

**Resolution – Senate Bill S0125 – introduced by Senators DaPonte and Conley in recognition of the School Committee's concerns regarding**



**the responsibility of paying for out of district children who attend the East Providence Campus of Bradley should be with the child's sending district or the district where the child resides. School Committee voted to endorse and support the Senate Bill. Motion to approve by Ms. Clupny, seconded by Mr. Conley. Vote 5-0.**

**Joint City Council/School Committee Meeting – The City Council voted to approve a joint meeting with the School Committee. Mr. Monteiro agreed and requested approval for setting up a meeting for Council and School Committee to get together to discuss and prioritize needs, concerns, and issues. Motion by Ms. Clupny to approve, seconded by Mr. Pimentel. Vote 5-0.**

## **New Business**

**PTA Reports – Izilda Teves, reported that Orlo Avenue School will hold a ribbon cutting ceremony on May 15, 2013 for the playground; also held teacher appreciation week, Red Carpet Event, and the Math Club.**

**Jessica Beauchaine stated that she truly appreciated the recognition and thanked the School Committee for their support; attendance at the Pasta Dinner at Waddington raised a significant amount of money for the school.**

**Fred Rybka requested information regarding a sign for the**

**Meadowcrest Building which will become Oldham School in the new school year. Mr. Conley thought a plaque to show the history would be appropriate since Meadowcrest would be renamed Oldham School. Mr. Monteiro would like the School Committee to have input regarding the signage and delay action to a later date.**

## **Public Comment II**

**Mr. Rybka asked when the parents found out about the buses for middle school sports. Mr. Conley stated that it needs to be researched. Mr. Ferreira would like a legal opinion on this matter.**

**Alice Martin spoke regarding school signage; she stated that 25-30 years ago, the Union School name stayed because they did not want to eliminate history for the people who attended school there.**

**Joe Grace was concerned as a parent about the Bradley Partnership contract not being renewed.**

**Jessica Beauchaine expressed concern about funds to be able to set up computer labs at elementary schools for the upcoming testing; it needs to get done quickly and Waddington is not in good shape for it.**

**Supt. Mercer stated that the IT Director, Kelly Ahrens, has a plan which may be presented at a future meeting.**

**Announcements - High School Graduation on June 14th; last day of school June 27th**

**Motion by Ms. Clupny to adjourn, seconded by Mr. Ferreira. Vote 5-0.**

**Respectfully submitted,**

**Patricia A. Iannelli, Administrative Assistant**

**Elizabeth Clupny, Clerk of the Committee**